

Torrance, California
March 14, 1939

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a

Regular meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday evening, March 14, 1939 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those ~~answering~~ present being Councilmen: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. Absent: Councilmen: None.

Councilman McGuire moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held February 28, 1939 be approved as written. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett presented an affidavit and order to appear before the Small Claims Court at 2:30 P.M. March 16, 1939 in an action instituted by Melvin J. Trabold, Plaintiff, against Glenn Jain and the City of Torrance, Defendants.

A communication was read from the Executive Board of the Torrance Coordinating Council, inquiring why payment of \$318.00 which was authorized at a previous meeting had not been received, this amount being for expenditures incurred during operation of the 1938 Torrance Factory Frolic.

Clerk Bartlett advised that a legal opinion is expected within a short time, disposition of the matter being delayed until said opinion is rendered. It was also pointed out that an itemized account of the expenditure had not been received from the Chamber of Commerce as yet.

A communication was read from Mrs. Lura Davis, requesting use of the Civic Auditorium without charge for a Townsend Club meeting to be held April 15, 1939.

Councilman McGuire moved that the request be referred to the Chamber of Commerce. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Manuel Alvarez, Manager of the Torrance Bears Baseball Team, requesting aid of the City of Torrance in building a ball diamond in Pueblo.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that this matter be referred to the Recreation Department. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the office of Ellis E. Patterson, Lieutenant Governor of the State of California, acknowledging receipt of a copy of a resolution of the City Council of the City of Torrance recommending William R. Barclay as a member of the Highway Commission, advising that it would receive every consideration.

A communication was read from J.R. Wilkes, enclosing itemized list of expense for the first production of the Community Players.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request for appropriation of \$70.00 to cover these expenditures be granted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion.

Councilman Powell questioned the legality of this motion which Councilman Hitchcock withdrew and moved that the request be referred to the Chamber of Commerce for their recommendation. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the North Torrance Improvement Association, requesting the aid of the City Council in obtaining gas tax allocations for improvement of Prairie Avenue and 182nd Street, advising that the tremendous tax burden on property facing those two streets makes it difficult for property owners to meet payments of taxes.

Referred to the City Attorney for report at the next meeting.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, enclosing communications from the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors and from the Road Commissioner, all in connection with the temporary transfer of funds from the Elena Avenue project in

the Redondo-Torrance-Hollywood Riviera area to the Narbonne Avenue realignment project.

Engineer Young advised that most of the Elena Avenue Project is in Redondo Beach and that Mr. Bisbee of the Huntington Land Company had given assurance that the necessary right of way will soon be available. No action necessary.

A petition signed by twenty-five people was read, requesting improvement of Western Avenue between Carson Street and 220th Street. Engineer Young advised that the roadway for which the improvement is requested is located in the City of Los Angeles. Councilman Hitchcock suggested that the City Engineer of the City of Los Angeles be notified that the portion of Western Avenue lying within the City of Torrance has been improved and that the City of Los Angeles should improve their portion. He stated further that he felt that Sepulveda Boulevard should be improved before funds are expended on Western Avenue. Engineer Young was instructed to notify the City Engineer of the City of Los Angeles of the condition of the street and the attitude of the City Council in connection with this matter.

A communication was read from the Torrance National Bank, together with Grant Deed in favor of the City of Torrance, executed by Joseph W. and Lenora E. Venable covering Lot 34 in Block "A" of Tract No. 7506. It was requested that the deed be accepted by resolution and a copy of same, together with deed and remittance of \$200.00, be forwarded the bank.

Engineer Young reported he had been informed by Pacific Electric Railway Company officials that authorization to proceed with replacement of caved in culvert on Western Avenue could be expected within a short time, possibly one week.

Engineer Young reported that a review of the minutes disclosed no ordinance was adopted prohibiting heavy trucking on various streets, but motions had been made to post signs on 218th Street, 220th Street, Gramercy Avenue and Andreo Avenue.

Director of Public Safety Stroh recommended that an ordinance prohibiting heavy trucking on the above mentioned streets and any others necessary be adopted.

Engineer Young said that if heavy trucking is prohibited on Plaza del Amo between Cabrillo and Arlington Avenues, traffic leading toward the City Dump will be hindered somewhat, especially traffic from the north end of town.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that this matter be referred to the Ordinance Committee.

Councilman Powell moved that the City Attorney be instructed to draw up an ordinance covering this matter. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion.

Councilman Powell stated that the matter could be expedited by referring it to the City Attorney, in that he could have the ordinance ready for presentation at the next meeting.

After a little discussion, Councilman Hitchcock and Councilman Powell withdrew the above motions and Councilman Hitchcock moved that the matter be referred to the Ordinance Committee, an ordinance to be drawn up and presented for first reading at the next meeting. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Engineer Young presented a request of residents in WALTERIA for street lights on State Highway 101 at Ocean Avenue and Neece Avenue. Councilman Hitchcock suggested that the matter be referred to the Police Department Safety Committee for investigation and recommendation. Mayor Tolson referred the matter to the Police Department Committee for report at the next meeting.

Engineer Young read two communications pertaining to the proposed excavation of Indian camp sites. The first communication, dated February 14, 1939, was from the Smithsonian Institution, United States National Museum, Washington, D.C. disapproving the project unless it can be definitely established that the

Torrance Public Library has proper facilities for care of archeological specimens. Engineer Young explained that if the University of Southern California could be designated to receive anything recovered, it is possible that the Smithsonian Institution might approve the project.

Councilman Murray moved that the proper officials be notified that anything recovered as a result of the archeological survey would be given to and remain the property of the University of Southern California. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Attorney McCall presented and read a blank contract form, which, if entered into, would be between the City of Torrance and the County of Los Angeles Regional Planning Commission, whereby said Commission would agree to furnish all technical and advisory services necessary and incidental to the preparation and administration of a comprehensive zoning plan for the City. A fee of \$10.00 per visit was stipulated, it being agreed that the consultant could be called as often or as seldom as necessary. The form contract specified a five year term.

A lengthy discussion followed, at which time the various provisions of the contract were explained in detail. No agreement being reached, the matter was deferred until the next meeting.

Attorney McCall presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1333

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE ACCEPTING GRANT DEED TO LOT 34,
BLOCK "A" OF TRACT NO. 7506 AND DIRECTING
RECORDING OF SAME.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1333 be adopted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that not to exceed \$153.22 be appropriated for 99.2 tons rock for street repair. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMAN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that not to exceed \$120.00 be appropriated for building a dyke at the City Dump. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock reported that various requests for trimming of trees had been granted.

Mayor Tolson reported that water does not drain off Maricopa Street near the Pacific Electric Shops and asked that it be investigated. Referred to the Street Department.

Councilman McGuire moved that the contract between the City of Torrance and the Los Angeles County Public Library for library services be renewed for the fiscal year 1939-40. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett reported franchise earnings from the Southern California Edison Company in the amount of \$1,078.59.

Councilman Hitchcock reported that the request of A.M. Rosenfeld Company regarding rolling of center of Torrance Boulevard

between Cravens and Arlington Avenues would be investigated as soon as possible.

City Electrician Butterfield reported that a street light could be installed on Acacia Avenue in accordance with the request of residents for about \$240.00, but he said a survey of that entire district is being made and advised that the installation be delayed until the survey has been completed.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. John Salm protested the heavy tax burden on 182nd Street and Prairie Avenue in North Torrance, pointing out that these two streets carry a tremendous amount of traffic, and that they are the only highways paid for by individual property owners. He said they should be paid for with gas tax funds. Referred to the Street Department and City Engineer for report at the next meeting.

Mr. Salm also protested against brick yards being established in the North Torrance District, stating it was his opinion the district had been zoned prohibiting any additional brick yards. He reported a brick yard being constructed in the vicinity near his property. Engineer Young advised that the permit had been issued for a shop building and not a brick yard. Mrs. Lela Gonner said that the brick yard near the Prairie Avenue school is a constant hazard to small children, since large pits fill with water and remain this way indefinitely. Mayor Tolson suggested that the matter be investigated by Director of Public Safety Stroh with the view of fencing the hole to protect the children. The entire matter was referred to the Zoning Committee.

Councilman McGuire Moved all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson presented a request of the Junior Musicians Society for an appropriation of \$400.00. Councilman Hitchcock moved that the matter be referred to the Chamber of Commerce for report. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

At 9:00 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Murray, the meeting adjourned.

A. H. Boudier
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved:

W. H. Tolson
Mayor of the City of Torrance